

I support the general concept of this petition, with one change.

I do not believe that the higher-class licenses should be obtainable by the memorization of questions and answers, as is possible now.

the present system of a PUBLISHED QUESTION POOL (that can be easily memorized) should also be ELIMINATED in favor of question guidelines or a similar system so that applicants would need to really understand the concepts, particularly in the case of the theory-type questions.

It would be very easy to create fill-in-the-blank question and answer guidelines for most items. For example, instead of one or two questions on Ohm's law with specific values of E, I, and/or R, there could be 3 question formats, each giving two of the quantities and asking for the third. It could be further specified that the actual values given must be whole numbers so that the math involved is simple and the answer comes out as a whole number or possibly common fractional or decimal value. There could also be questions that give a simple circuit and just ask if one value goes up or down, what does another do. This would much better test whether someone understands the formula and relationship than a person being able (as they can at present) memorize that the answer to the question on Ohms's law is "2".

I have seen many instances in the past where individuals obtained Extra class licenses without gaining any real technical knowledge. This is contrary to the intent of the higher license classes.

As an instructor I try to teach the actual theory and other information, but I find many people resist learning or trying to understand it because they know all they really have to do is memorize.

I do not believe that trying to keep a question pool "secret" would be possible in the long term, but even an unpublished question pool (that is changed on a regular basis) for the General and Extra class licenses would be better than the present situation.